

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
GALVESTON DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

DIHLON LEE DAVIS,
Defendant.

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CRIMINAL NO. 3:17-cr-017

PLEA AGREEMENT

The United States of America, by and through Ryan K. Patrick, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas, and Sherri L. Zack, Assistant United States Attorney, and the defendant, Dihlon Lee Davis (“Defendant”), and Defendant’s counsel, pursuant to Rule 11(c)(1)(A) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, state that they have entered into an agreement, the terms and conditions of which are as follows:

Defendant’s Agreement

1. Defendant agrees to plead guilty to Count 3 of the Indictment. Count 3 charges Defendant with **Sex Trafficking of Minors**, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1591(a)(1) and (2) and (b)(2). Defendant, by entering this plea, agrees that he is waiving any right to have the facts that the law makes essential to the punishment either charged in the indictment, or proved to a jury or proven beyond a reasonable doubt.

Punishment Range

2. The **statutory** maximum penalty for each violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1591(a)(1) and (2) and (b)(2), is imprisonment of not less than 10 years and not more than Life and a fine of not more than \$250,000. Additionally, Defendant may receive a term of supervised release after imprisonment of **at least** 5 years and up to Life. *See* Title 18, United

States Code, sections 3559(a)(1), and 3583(b)(2). Defendant acknowledges and understands that if he should violate the conditions of any period of supervised release which may be imposed as part of his sentence, then Defendant may be imprisoned for **up to** Life years, without credit for time already served on the term of supervised release prior to such violation. *See* Title 18, United States Code, sections 3559(a)(1), and 3583(e)(3) and (k). Defendant understands that he cannot have the imposition or execution of the sentence suspended, nor is he eligible for parole.

Mandatory Special Assessment

3. Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, section 3013(a)(2)(A), immediately after sentencing, Defendant will pay to the Clerk of the United States District Court a special assessment in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per count of conviction. The payment will be by cashier's check or money order, payable to the Clerk of the United States District Court, c/o District Clerk's Office, P.O. Box 61010, Houston, Texas 77208, Attention: Finance.

4. Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3014(a)(3), if the court Determines that the Defendant is a non-indigent person, the Defendant will pay to the Clerk of the United States District Court a special assessment in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5000.00) per count of conviction. The payment will be by cashier's check or money order, payable to the Clerk of the United States District Court, c/o District clerk's Office, P.O. Box 61010, Houston, TX 77208, Attention: Finance.

Immigration Consequences

5. Defendant recognizes that pleading guilty may have consequences with respect to his/her immigration status. Defendant understands that if he/she is not a citizen of the United States, by pleading guilty he/she may be removed from the United States, denied citizenship, and

denied admission to the United States in the future. Defendant understands that if he is a naturalized United States citizen, pleading guilty may result in immigration consequences, such as denaturalization and potential deportation or removal from the United States. Defendant's attorney has advised Defendant of the potential immigration consequences resulting from Defendant's plea of guilty, and Defendant affirms that he/she wants to plead guilty regardless of any immigration consequences that may result from the guilty plea and conviction.

Waiver of Appeal and Collateral Review

6. Defendant is aware that Title 28, United States Code, section 1291, and Title 18, United States Code, section 3742, afford a defendant the right to appeal the conviction and sentence imposed. Defendant is also aware that Title 28, United States Code, section 2255, affords the right to contest or "collaterally attack" a conviction or sentence after the judgment of conviction and sentence has become final. Defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives the right to appeal or "collaterally attack" the conviction and sentence, except that Defendant does not waive the right to raise a claim of ineffective assistance of counsel on direct appeal, if otherwise permitted, or on collateral review in a motion under Title 28, United States Code, section 2255. Defendant's knowing and voluntary waiver of the right to appeal or collaterally attack the conviction and sentence includes waiving the right to raise on appeal or on collateral review any argument that (1) the statute(s) to which the defendant is pleading guilty is unconstitutional and (2) the admitted conduct does not fall within the scope of the statute(s). In the event Defendant files a notice of appeal following the imposition of the sentence or later collaterally attacks his conviction or sentence, the United States will assert its rights under this agreement and seek specific performance of these waivers.

7. In agreeing to these waivers, Defendant is aware that a sentence has not yet been determined by the Court. Defendant is also aware that any estimate of the possible sentencing range under the sentencing guidelines that he/she may have received from his/her counsel, the United States or the Probation Office, is a prediction and not a promise, did not induce his/her guilty plea, and is not binding on the United States, the Probation Office or the Court. The United States does not make any promise or representation concerning what sentence the defendant will receive. Defendant further understands and agrees that the United States Sentencing Guidelines are “effectively advisory” to the Court. *See United States v. Booker*, 543 U.S. 220 (2005). Accordingly, Defendant understands that, although the Court must consult the Sentencing Guidelines and must take them into account when sentencing Defendant, the Court is not bound to follow the Sentencing Guidelines nor sentence Defendant within the calculated guideline range.

8. Defendant understands and agrees that each and all waivers contained in the Agreement are made in exchange for the concessions made by the United States in this plea agreement.

The United States' Agreements

9. The United States agrees to each of the following:

(a) If Defendant pleads guilty to Count 3 of the indictment and persists in that plea through sentencing, and if the Court accepts this plea agreement, the United States will move to dismiss any remaining counts of the indictment at the time of sentencing;

(b) If the Court determines that Defendant qualifies for an adjustment under section 3E1.1(a) of the United States Sentencing Guidelines, and the offense level prior to operation of section 3E1.1(a) is 16 or greater, the United States will move under section 3E1.1(b) for an additional one-level reduction because Defendant timely notified authorities of his or her intent to plead guilty, thereby permitting the United States to avoid preparing for trial and permitting the United States and the Court to allocate their resources more efficiently.

Agreement Binding - Southern District of Texas Only

10. The United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas agrees that it will not further criminally prosecute Defendant in the Southern District of Texas for offenses arising from conduct charged in the indictment. This plea agreement binds only the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas and Defendant. It does not bind any other United States Attorney's Office. The United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas will bring this plea agreement and the full extent of Defendant's cooperation to the attention of other prosecuting offices, if requested.

United States' Non-Waiver of Appeal

11. The United States reserves the right to carry out its responsibilities under guidelines sentencing. Specifically, the United States reserves the right:

- (a) to bring its version of the facts of this case, including its evidence file and any investigative files, to the attention of the Probation Office in connection with that office's preparation of a presentence report;
- (b) to set forth or dispute sentencing factors or facts material to sentencing;
- (c) to seek resolution of such factors or facts in conference with Defendant's counsel and the Probation Office;
- (d) to file a pleading relating to these issues, in accordance with section 6A1.2 of the United States Sentencing Guidelines and Title 18, United States Code, section 3553(a); and
- (e) to appeal the sentence imposed or the manner in which it was determined.

Sentence Determination

12. Defendant is aware that the sentence will be imposed after consideration of the United States Sentencing Guidelines and Policy Statements, which are only advisory, as well as the provisions of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3553(a). Defendant nonetheless acknowledges and agrees that the Court has authority to impose any sentence up to and including the statutory maximum set for the offense(s) to which Defendant pleads guilty, and that the sentence to be imposed is within the sole discretion of the sentencing judge after the Court has consulted the applicable Sentencing Guidelines. Defendant understands and agrees that the parties' positions regarding the application of the Sentencing Guidelines do not bind the Court and that the sentence imposed is within the discretion of the sentencing judge. If the Court should impose any sentence up to the maximum established by statute, or should the Court order any or all of the sentences imposed to run consecutively, Defendant cannot, for that reason alone, withdraw a guilty plea, and will remain bound to fulfill all of the obligations under this plea agreement.

Rights at Trial

13. Defendant understands that by entering into this agreement, he surrenders certain rights as provided in this plea agreement. Defendant understands that the rights of a defendant include the following:

(a) If Defendant persisted in a plea of not guilty to the charges, defendant would have the right to a speedy jury trial with the assistance of counsel. The trial may be conducted by a judge sitting without a jury if Defendant, the United States, and the court all agree.

(b) At a trial, the United States would be required to present witnesses and other evidence against Defendant. Defendant would have the opportunity to confront those witnesses and his attorney would be allowed to cross-examine them. In turn,

Defendant could, but would not be required to, present witnesses and other evidence on his own behalf. If the witnesses for Defendant would not appear voluntarily, he could require their attendance through the subpoena power of the court; and

(c) At a trial, Defendant could rely on a privilege against self-incrimination and decline to testify, and no inference of guilt could be drawn from such refusal to testify. However, if Defendant desired to do so, he/she could testify on his/her own behalf.

Factual Basis for Guilty Plea

14. Defendant is pleading guilty because he is in fact guilty of the charges contained in Count 3 of the indictment. If this case were to proceed to trial, the United States could prove each element of the offense beyond a reasonable doubt. The following facts, among others would be offered to establish Defendant's guilt:

Defendant, DAVIS, trafficked MV4, a minor, for the purpose of causing her to engage in commercial sex and profited from recruiting, enticing, harboring, transporting, advertising, maintaining and patronizing or soliciting her knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that had not attained the age of 18 years. In regard to MV4 (DOB 7/14/1999), the criminal actions of DAVIS occurred from approximately March 1, 2016 and April 30, 2016.

The investigation into DAVIS started at Manvil High School. A screen shot of a text message was circulated among some of the students. Alvin Independent School District (AISD) Police Department Officer Juan Limones interviewed Minor Witness 1 (MW1) (DOB 12/01/1998) about prostitution related activities. MW1 showed Ofc. Limones the screen shot of some of the text messages. Ofc. Limones took a picture of the screen shot which showed a text conversation between a user known as Dillo Davis and an unknown person. In the texts, the user Dillo Davis is asking the unidentified party if they want to prostitute. The other party

responded no. Dillo Davis responded by acknowledging that prostitution is illegal but that they won't get caught and he can keep the unknown person safe. MW1 identified Dillo Davis as Defendant DAVIS.

Investigators obtained the phone number for DAVIS. The number was researched by Texas DPS and they were able to obtain subscriber records from Pinger assigning DAVIS' known number to a subscriber with the username Davis.l.davis. This account was created on March 3, 2016.

The investigation revealed Minor Victim 2 (MV2) (DOB - 3/15/1999) was DAVIS' girlfriend. A state search warrant was obtained for MV2's cell phone. MV2 also provided law enforcement with the password to unlock the phone. MV2's father identified the phone as belonging to his daughter. The phone was analyzed by BCSO ID Ofc. Nielson. Forensic examination of the phone revealed numerous photographs/videos of DAVIS and MV2. A text dated April 1, 2016, was found in which DAVIS states "I'm saying but whatever I work tomorrow and juvenile (MV4) wants to work so imam work her down here." Pictures of MV4 in bra and panties were found on the phone as well as a text that contained verbiage contained in a prostitution ad.

Investigators searched backpage.com and found an advertisement for MV4 dated March 4, 2016. The ad contained the same language that was found in MV2's cell phone. Additionally, an ad dated March 5, 2016, was found that used DAVIS' phone number, MV4's photos, and photos of Minor Victim 5 (MV5) (DOB-1/30/1999). When interviewed, MV5 stated that sometime in March of 2016, MV2 took pictures of MV5 and MV4 in their bra and

panties at a motel in Lake Jackson. Lake Jackson is a city within the jurisdictional limits of the Southern District of Texas.

On May 17, 2016, SA Arthur went to the Super 8 Motel in Lake Jackson after MV2's phone geo located to that location. The manager informed SA Arthur that DAVIS rented rooms at the motel on March 4, 5, 11(two nights), and 13, 2016. DAVIS paid cash and used the address 12006 Banks Run, Pearland, Texas which is the address on his DL. The phone number associated with the room rental is that associated with MV2's phone.

On May 24, 2016, MV4 was interviewed at her high school. MV4 identified herself as the minor female in the bra and pantie images. Further, MV4 identified MV5 as the other female in bra and panties. MV4, MV2, and DAVIS went to the Super 8 Motel in Lake Jackson approximately 5 times. MV4 stated the girls engaged in prostitution and specifically indicated that MV2 participated. MV4 stated that the girls charged \$150.00 for five minutes of sex and \$250.00 for oral sex. MV4 stated DAVIS provided transportation to the motel and provided drugs to the girls. MV4 made approximately \$3000.00 engaging in commercial sex while with DAVIS.

In a recorded interview with DAVIS on May 27, 2016, DAVIS stated he rented rooms at a Super 8 Motel in Clute, Texas, because MV4 and MV2 were underage. DAVIS indicated that he drove the girls from their homes to the hotel for the purpose of the girls engaging in commercial sex. DAVIS stated he received money to pay for gas, drugs and helping.

DAVIS used the cell phones and the internet to communicate with the victims, post ads for commercial sex, and recruit minors. The internet is a means and facility of interstate and

foreign commerce. Additionally, DAVIS rented rooms in hotels that constitute a means and facility of interstate commerce for the purpose of commercial sex and/or to harbor and maintain the minors.

Breach of Plea Agreement

15. If Defendant should fail in any way to fulfill completely all of the obligations under this plea agreement, the United States will be released from its obligations under the plea agreement, and Defendant's plea and sentence will stand. If at any time Defendant retains, conceals, or disposes of assets in violation of this plea agreement, or if Defendant knowingly withholds evidence or is otherwise not completely truthful with the United States, then the United States may move the Court to set aside the guilty plea and reinstate prosecution. Any information and documents that have been disclosed by Defendant, whether prior to or subsequent to this plea agreement, and all leads derived therefrom, will be used against defendant in any prosecution.

Restitution, Forfeiture, and Fines – Generally

16. This Plea Agreement is being entered into by the United States on the basis of Defendant's express representation that he will make a full and complete disclosure of all assets over which he exercises direct or indirect control, or in which he has any financial interest. Defendant agrees not to dispose of any assets or take any action that would effect a transfer of property in which he has an interest, unless Defendant obtains the prior written permission of the United States.

17. Defendant agrees to make complete financial disclosure by truthfully executing a sworn financial statement (Form OBD-500 or similar form) within 14 days of signing this plea agreement. Defendant agrees to authorize the release of all financial information requested by

the United States, including, but not limited to, executing authorization forms permitting the United States to obtain tax information, bank account records, credit histories, and social security information. Defendant agrees to discuss and answer any questions by the United States relating to Defendant's complete financial disclosure.

18. Defendant agrees to take all steps necessary to pass clear title to forfeitable assets to the United States and to assist fully in the collection of restitution and fines, including, but not limited to, surrendering title, executing a warranty deed, signing a consent decree, stipulating to facts regarding the transfer of title and the basis for the forfeiture, and signing any other documents necessary to effectuate such transfer. Defendant also agrees to direct any banks which have custody of his assets to deliver all funds and records of such assets to the United States.

19. Defendant understands that forfeiture, restitution, and fines are separate components of sentencing and are separate obligations.

Restitution

20. Defendant agrees to pay full restitution to the victim(s) regardless of the count(s) of conviction. Defendant understands and agrees that the Court will determine the amount of restitution to fully compensate the victim(s). Defendant agrees that restitution imposed by the Court will be due and payable immediately and that Defendant will not attempt to avoid or delay payment. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 7 above, Defendant waives the right to challenge in any manner, including by direct appeal or in a collateral proceeding, the restitution order imposed by the Court.

Forfeiture

21. Defendant stipulates and agrees that the property listed in the Indictment's Notice of Forfeiture (and in any supplemental Notices) is subject to forfeiture, and Defendant agrees to the forfeiture of that property.

22. Defendant agrees to waive any and all interest in any asset which is the subject of a related administrative or judicial forfeiture proceeding, whether criminal or civil, federal or state.

23. Defendant consents to the order of forfeiture becoming final as to Defendant immediately following this guilty plea, pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 32.2(b)(4)(A).

24. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 7 above, Defendant waives the right to challenge the forfeiture of property in any manner, including by direct appeal or in a collateral proceeding.

Fines

25. Defendant understands that under the Sentencing Guidelines the Court is permitted to order Defendant to pay a fine that is sufficient to reimburse the government for the costs of any imprisonment or term of supervised release, if any. Defendant agrees that any fine imposed by the Court will be due and payable immediately, and Defendant will not attempt to avoid or delay payment. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 6 above, Defendant waives the right to challenge the fine in any manner, including by direct appeal or in a collateral proceeding.

Notification of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act

26. Defendant has been advised, and understands, that under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act, a federal law, he must register and keep the registration current in each of the following jurisdictions: where he resides; where he is an employee; and where he is a student. The Defendant understands that the requirements for registration include providing his name, his residence address and the names and addresses of any places where he is or will be an employee or a student, among other information. The Defendant further understands that the requirement to keep the registration current includes informing at least one jurisdiction in which he resides, is an employee, or is a student not later than three (3) business days after any change of residence, employment, or student status. Defendant has been advised, and understands, that failure to comply with these obligations subjects him to prosecution for failure to register under federal law, 18 U.S.C. §2250, which is punishable by a fine or imprisonment, or both.

Complete Agreement

27. This written plea agreement, consisting of 16 pages, including the attached addendum of Defendant and his attorney, constitutes the complete plea agreement between the United States, Defendant, and Defendant's counsel. No promises or representations have been made by the United States except as set forth in writing in this plea agreement. Defendant acknowledges that no threats have been made against him and that he is pleading guilty freely and voluntarily because he is guilty.

28. Any modification of this plea agreement must be in writing and signed by all parties.

Filed at Galveston, Texas, on August 1, 2019


Brandon Leonard

Defendant

Subscribed and sworn to before me on August 1, 2019.

DAVID J. BRADLEY, Clerk
UNITED STATES DISTRICT CLERK

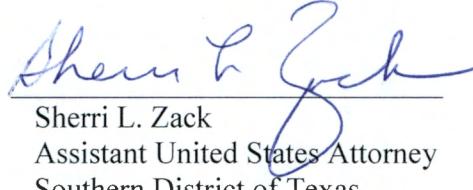
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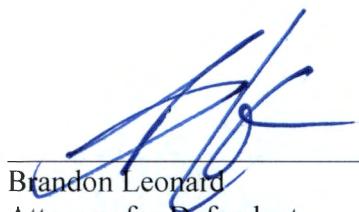

Susan D. Strom
Deputy United States District Clerk

APPROVED:

Ryan K. Patrick
United States Attorney

By:


Sherri L. Zack
Assistant United States Attorney
Southern District of Texas


Brandon Leonard
Attorney for Defendant

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
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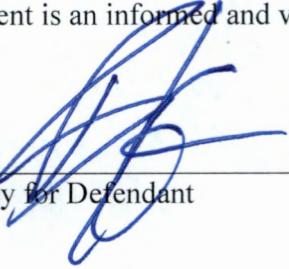
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CRIMINAL NO. 3:17-cr-017

PLEA AGREEMENT -- ADDENDUM

I have fully explained to Defendant his/her rights with respect to the pending indictment. I have reviewed the provisions of the United States Sentencing Commission's Guidelines Manual and Policy Statements and I have fully and carefully explained to Defendant the provisions of those Guidelines which may apply in this case. I have also explained to Defendant that the Sentencing Guidelines are only advisory and the court may sentence Defendant up to the maximum allowed by statute per count of conviction. Further, I have carefully reviewed every part of this plea agreement with Defendant. To my knowledge, Defendant's decision to enter into this agreement is an informed and voluntary one.



Attorney for Defendant

Date

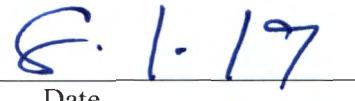


8.1.19

I have consulted with my attorney and fully understand all my rights with respect to the indictment pending against me. My attorney has fully explained, and I understand, all my rights with respect to the provisions of the United States Sentencing Commission's Guidelines Manual

which may apply in my case. I have read and carefully reviewed every part of this plea agreement with my attorney. I understand this agreement and I voluntarily agree to its terms.


Defendant


Date